April 28, 1941

Conversation between Mr. Harold Weisberg and Mr. Kelton, of the Rohm & Haas Co., as recorded by Virginia Stone:

W. Mr. Chase told me you had called me.

K. I called to make sure that we saw the article before it was published.

W. I am planning to speak to Mr. Rogers about that at the first opportunity. Will let you know in a day or so.

K. When you want to go into the synthetic rubber matter, let me know. (Dissertation on why synthetic rubber is of national importance at this time, and how chemical companies have been working on it for years).

W. By the way, the New York Times carried a story about ten days or two weeks ago to the effect that some New Jersey company, the Schering Corp., I think, had been subpoenaed in connection with its dealings with you.

K. All firms are being subpoenaed today. 191 firms have been subpoenaed . They are investigating chemical company relations, and payments of royalties. All the firms have had to submit reports to the Government.

W. Have you been subpoenaed?

K. O, yes, of course.

W. By the Anti-trust Division?

K. I believe so - it's just a matter of form.

(more discussion of synthetic rubber story)

W. Somebody up here said that the Department of Justice had some investigators over at your plant.

K. We called in the FBI at our own request.

W. That isn't what I mean.

K. Oh, they came over when they served the subpoena, and said that they wanted to send somebody over to check on the information given them by our company.